## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Previously presented) A washer pump comprising:

a case which is partitioned into a motor chamber and a pump chamber by a partition wall at one end of a cylindrical pump case;

an armature accommodated in the motor chamber, the armature having an armature shaft rotatable when the armature is electrically energized;

an impeller accommodated in the pump chamber and coupled to the armature shaft so as to be rotatable;

a liquid suction port in a circumferential wall of said cylindrical pump case and communicating with the pump chamber from which washing liquid is sucked into the pump chamber by a rotation of the impeller; and

a filter detachably attached in the liquid suction port for filtering the washing liquid,

wherein a ventilation hole is formed in said partition wall between the pump chamber and the liquid suction port, so that an air passage communicating with the ventilation hole is provided in the filter.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) A washer pump according to claim 1, wherein the filter is provided with a filter body having a cylindrical circumferential wall and a bottom wall, each of the bottom wall and the cylindrical circumferential wall of the filter body being formed with mesh-like filtering portions, and

a part of the cylindrical circumferential wall is formed into a duct portion functioning as an air passage extending in the longitudinal direction of the filter.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) A washer pump according to claim 2, wherein the duct portion is extended from an opening side of the filter so as to protrude from the bottom wall, and a cutout portion formed on a bottom face of the duct portion at a side thereof is made to closely come into contact with an attachment portion having flat faces in a stepped manner in the liquid suction port.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) A filter adapted to be installed in a washer pump including a case partitioned into a motor chamber which accommodates an armature having an armature shaft that is rotatable when the armature is electrically energized, and a pump chamber which accommodates an impeller that is coupled to the armature shaft of the armature so as to be rotatable, wherein washing liquid is sucked into the pump chamber from a liquid suction port, which communicates with the pump chamber by the rotation of the impeller, and the washing liquid is discharged from a liquid discharge port which is

communicated with the pump chamber~~,~~, the filter comprising:

a filter body detachably attached to the liquid suction port and defining an air passage that communicates with a ventilation hole provided on a partition wall that partitions the pump chamber from the motor chamber.

Claim 5. (Original) A filter used for a washer pump described in claim 4, wherein the filter body includes a substantially cylindrical circumferential wall and a bottom wall, each of the circumferential wall and the bottom wall being formed into a mesh-like filtering portion, and

a part of the circumferential wall is formed into a duct portion functioning as an air passage extending in the longitudinal direction of the filter.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) A filter used for a washer pump described in claim 5, wherein the duct portion is extended from an opening side of the filter so as to protrude from the bottom wall, and a cutout portion formed on a bottom face of the duct portion at a side thereof is made to closely come into contact with an attachment portion of said liquid suction port having flat faces in a stepped manner in the liquid suction port.

Claim 7. (Canceled).

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A washer pump comprising:

a case having a partition wall that partitions a motor chamber from a pump chamber,

wherein said partition wall defines a ventilation hole from said pump chamber to said motor chamber ~~The pump of claim 7~~, and further comprising a filter comprising a filter wall defining a duct that communicates with said ventilation hole.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 8, wherein said filter wall comprises a cylindrical circumferential wall.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 9, wherein said filter wall further comprises an end face.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 10, wherein said duct extends from

an inlet side of said filter beyond said end face of said filter wall.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 11, wherein said duct comprises duct walls that include a stepped portion that steps radially inwardly at an end of said duct that is toward said end face of said filter wall.

Claim 13. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 12, wherein said case defines a liquid suction port in a circumferential wall of said case on said motor chamber side of said partition wall.

Claim 14. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 13, wherein said partition wall defines at least a portion of said liquid suction port.

Claim 15. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 14, wherein said ventilation hole extends through said partition wall into said liquid suction port.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 13, wherein said filter is detachably attached within said liquid suction port, and wherein said stepped portion closely contacts an attachment portion of said liquid suction port.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 16, wherein said attachment portion and said stepped portion each comprise matching flat faces.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The pump of claim 8, wherein said duct extends in a longitudinal direction of said filter.

Claim 19. (Canceled).

Claim 20. (Currently amended) A washer pump comprising:
a case having a partition wall that partitions a motor chamber from a pump chamber,
wherein said partition wall defines a ventilation hole from said pump chamber to said motor chamber, and ~~The pump of claim 7,~~ further comprising a filter defining a cylindrical

ventilation tube in communication with said ventilation hole.